

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Americans are living longer, healthier lives. The dramatically growing population of South Dakotans aged 55 and older can be trained in new techniques and skills to fill the growing need for workers to keep the economy dynamic; and,

*Whereas*, Older Americans encounter serious difficulty finding employment when they lose their jobs or seek to change careers. By focusing on age instead of qualifications and a strong work ethic, employers deny older Americans an equal opportunity to make their own valuable contributions to the American workplace; and,

*Whereas*, Older Americans actively contribute to our communities through hard work, wisdom, and experience. They have rightly earned our admiration and respect, and they have earned a fair chance at a good job; and,

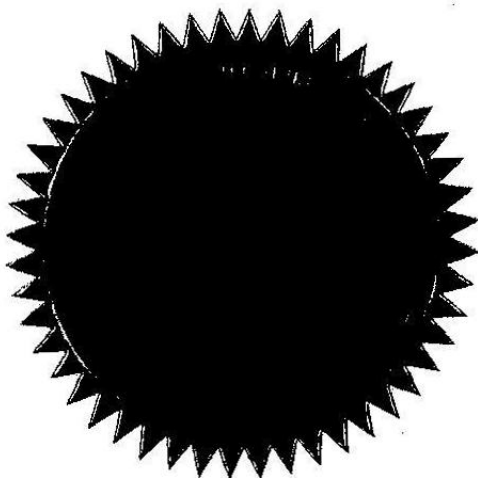
*Whereas*, Employers are urged to consider carefully the skills and other qualifications of men and women aged 55 and older and to utilize this rich national resource fully:

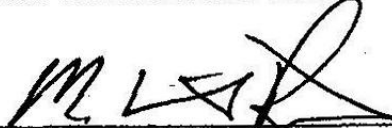
*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 21-27, 2003, as

### *EMPLOY THE OLDER WORKER WEEK*

in South Dakota, and I encourage all South Dakotans to recognize the contributions older workers make to the workplace and to our economy. I urge public officials responsible for job placement, training, and related services to intensify their efforts throughout the year to help older South Dakotans to find suitable jobs and training.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three



  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State